Shortage of fodder and drugs for animals

932. PROF. (SHRIMATI) BHARATI RAY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the names of States suffering from shortage of fodder and drugs for animals; and

(b) the steps taken by Government to improve the situation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) The name of States which suffer from shortage of fodder are Andhra Pradesh, Assam, Bihar, Gujarat, J&K, Karnataka, Kerala, Madhya Pradesh, Manipur, Meghalaya, Orissa, Punjab, Sikkim, Tripura, Uttar Pradesh and West Bengal. There is no report regarding shortage of drugs in the States.

(b) Government of India implements the following schemes for development of feed and fodder in the country as a whole.

1. Central Fodder Development Organisation comprises seven Regional Stations for Forage Production and Demonstration located in different agro-cfimatic conditions in the country. In addition, there is one Central Fodder Seed Production Farm at Hcssarghatta, Bangalore. All these farms arc engaged in multiplication of fodder seeds and implementation of Central Minikit Testing Programme under which fodder kits arc supplied to the farmers through State Governments free of cost.

2. Under the Centrally sponsored scheme—"Assistance of States for Feed and Fodder Development", Government of India releases funds to the State Governments, at the rates ranging from 25% to 100%, for fodder and fodder seed production.

Use of wheat herbicide 'Leader'

933. SHRI PREM CHAND GUPTA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a new generation wheat herbicide Leader, launched three years ago by a multi-national seed company has registered maximum sales in North India;